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3430 Evaluation

Hazard Tree Evaluation - Koosah Falls Viewpoint, McKenzie Ranger District

Forest Supervisor, Willamette NF

On April 15, Gregory M. Filip and Craig L. Schmitt, Plant Pathologists from the Regional Office Staff, Portland, visited the McKenzie Ranger District. Purpose of the visit was to examine hazard trees at the Koosah Falls Viewpoint. They were accompanied by Steve Otoupolik, Recreation Specialist and Phil Raabe, Other Resources Assistant.

Koosah Falls Viewpoint is located on a man-made earth and wood platform built against the base of two large Douglas-firs. Both trees are living but have exposed root systems and heartrot as detected by boring with electric drills. The District is concerned that if one of the firs should fail at the roots, part or all of the platform will fall approximately 50 feet to the McKenzie River. Severing of the tree at the height of the platform will probably reduce failure of the roots since the center of gravity of the tree will be lowered. Esthetically, this may not be a desirable alternative. It is possible that the trees may break above the platform since considerable rot was detected in both trees. A second alternative may be the abandoning of the viewpoint for a safer location.

If FPM can be of further service, please contact us.

James S. Hadfield

PAUL E. BUFFAM, Director
Forest Pest Management

cc:
Steve Otoupolik

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